**American Civics: War for Independence Review**

**Unit V: Brave New World**

**Pre-Colonial America**

1. Christopher Columbus
   1. He **DOES NOT** discover America in October, 1492
   2. He gets lost thinking he’s found Asia and **NEVER REALIZED HE HAS CRASHED INTO NORTH AMERICA**
   3. Essentially starts slavery in the New World
2. Jamestown, Virginia
   1. Founded in 1607, it is the first permanent British Colony in North America
   2. Led by Captain John Smith, Pocahontas, and the Powhatan tribe
3. Plymouth, Massachusetts Bay Colony
   1. Founded in 1620 by the Pilgrims who were seeking religious freedom
   2. They all nearly starved to death in December, 1620. Saved by Squanto
   3. Celebrated the first Thanksgiving in 1621
4. Slavery begins in the 1600’s
   1. Triangle Trade was the primary economic trading system of this period
      * 1. Slaves sent from Africa to America (Middle Passage)
        2. Slaves worked and harvested raw goods sent to Europe
        3. Europe sends finished goods, money and guns to Africa
5. The Salem Witch Trials, 1692
   1. Comes at the end of a period of 300 years of witchcraft hysteria where close to 5 million women are hanged or burned to death for witchcraft.
6. The Ivy Leagues: They are the oldest universities in the United States and some of the finest and best in the world
   1. Harvard University, 1636
   2. The College of William and Mary, 1693
   3. Yale University, 1701
   4. Princeton University, 1746
   5. Columbia University, 1754
   6. Brown University, 1764

**Colonial America**

I: The Original 13 Colonies

1. The Southern Colonies
   1. Maryland
   2. Virginia
   3. North Carolina
   4. South Carolina
   5. Georgia
2. The Middle Colonies
   1. Pennsylvania
   2. New Jersey
   3. Delaware
   4. New York
3. The New England Colonies
   1. Connecticut
   2. New Hampshire
   3. Rhode Island
   4. Massachusetts Bay
4. Maine is a part of Massachusetts and NOT a colony

II. The Road to Revolution (1750-1763):

1. The French and Indian War
   1. Also known as Seven Years War
   2. Fought between England and France (with Native American Allies)
   3. Fought for control of North America
2. Outcomes
   1. England wins and gains control of North America
   2. The *Pax Britannia* or British Peace begins.
   3. George Washington becomes famous for his military adventures

**Unit VI: War for Independence**

The Road to Revolution (1763-1774):

1. King George III and the British Parliament decide to tax Americans. Why?
   1. The Americans needed to pay their fair share for their defense and to support the British Empire
2. Americans view this as **tyranny**: which is defined as the unjust abuse of government power. (KEY DEFINITION)
3. The Proclamation of 1763prohibited Americans from living west of the Appalachian Mountains
4. The Stamp Act forced Americans to place a stamp on all paper goods.
5. The Quartering Act forced Americans to house British troops in their homes
6. The Tea Act forced Americans to purchase British Tea and pay a tax for it. Together, they are known as the Intolerable Acts
7. The Intolerable Acts directly led to the Boston Massacre in April, 1770 and the Boston Tea Party in December, 1773.
   1. John Adamsbecomes nationally famous for his defense of the British soldiers in the Boston Massacre

**The War for Independence (1775-1783)**:

1. The Battle of Lexington and Concord: April, 1775
   1. “The Shot Heard ‘Round the World” is another nickname for this battle
   2. Paul Revere went on his famous “Midnight Ride” shouting “The British Are Coming!”
2. The Sons of Liberty
   1. Paul Revere, John Hancock, and Samuel Adams were a group known as The Sons of Liberty who used propaganda to help start the American Revolution
3. The Battle of Lexington and Concord inspired revolutions in France (1789), and most of Latin America, led by Simon Bolivar, the “George Washington of South America.”
4. The Battle of Trenton took place on Christmas Day, 1776 when George Washington used guerilla warfare tactics on the Hessians and British.
5. The Battle of Saratoga occurred in 1777 and forced France to join the war on the side of the Americans
6. Francis Marion, known by his nickname Swamp Fox used guerilla tactics on the British.
7. Guerilla Warfare is a “hit and run” defensive strategy.
8. Washington and his men survived the long winter of 1777 at Valley Forge with the help of the Frenchman Marquis de Lafayette and the Prussian Baron Von Steuben
9. The Battle of Yorktown occurred in 1781, when the Continental Army and the French Navy surrounded the British in the city.
10. American Reactions:
    1. America wins the Revolution
    2. Proves that the Continentals can stand up to the British (who were the strongest army in the world at the time)
    3. Yorktown clinches American Independence
11. British Reactions:
    1. Most British were tired of fighting the war
    2. King George wanted to keep fighting but realized there was no way to militarily win without bankrupting the British Empire
    3. The British are forced to recognize American Independence
12. The Treaty of Paris, 1783
    1. Great Britain recognized American Independence
    2. Britain gives up all control of its holdings west of the Appalachian Mountains
    3. America controls everything east of the Mississippi River

**The Articles of Confederation, 1781-1787**

1. Bound the 13 states in a loose confederation of states
   1. This is a very weak form of national government
2. Shays’ Rebellion, 1786
   1. Daniel Shays was a Revolutionary War veteran who was owed a pension. When he did not receive it, he seized control of the federal arsenal in Springfield, Massachusetts
3. Thomas Jefferson’s Reaction:
   1. Jefferson believes that Shays is exercising his democratic rights of liberty. Shays is promoting democracy and should be supported. (Jefferson is safe and pretty far away in France when he writes this)
4. James Madison’s Reaction:
   1. Madison sees Shays as dangerous to the national peace and order. If Shays is allowed to go unanswered, there will be anarchy in America

James Madison’s Response is to propose a Constitutional Convention to revise the Articles of Confederation and strengthen the national government.

1. Using your knowledge of the American Revolution, of the following battles listed below, which was the most important AND explain why? The Battle Lexington and Concord, The Battle of Bunker (Breed’s) Hill, the Battle of Trenton, the Battle of Saratoga, or the Battle of Yorktown? Explain your answer.
2. What are your unalienable rights as laid out in the Declaration of Independence? Explain Jefferson’s philosophy of the “Consent of the Governed.” If the ***purpose of government* is to protect your natural (unalienable) rights**, what happens when government abuses your rights? Explain your reasoning.
3. Use your knowledge of the American Revolution to argue whether or not Benedict Arnold should be considered a traitor. Does Arnold have a legitimate excuse for what he did? Explain your thoughts.
4. Aside from Washington, numerous members of both the Continental Congress and the civilian population played important roles in the Revolutionary Era. Using your knowledge of history, which of the Founding Fathers should be remembered as the most important: John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, or Benjamin Franklin? Or is there *another* American who should be considered in this pantheon?